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FRANK E. HOWE, Editor and Pub.

Monday, June 5, 1916.

THE ZEPPELIN HORROR

Fighting in the trenches in France and Belgium has been horrible but it hasn't developed all of the possibilities in the line of butchery and destruction. Should the war continue Germany is likely to carry the construction of Zeppelins to such a stage that to the killing and maiming of fighting men may be added the actual wiping out of cities far removed from the battlefields. The aerial raids on England have demonstrated in a preliminary way some of the results that it is possible to accomplish with the big air craft. They have also proved that as yet no effective defence against the Zeppelins has been developed.

Word comes from Zurich, Switzerland, that a new super-Zeppelin, 750 feet long, is making trial flights over Lake Constance. This craft is reported to be double the size of the machines heretofore used by Germany. It is equipped with armored gondolas, machine guns, small cannon and apparatus to discharge aerial torpedoes and drop bombs. The big balloon and its equipment weighs 40 tons and is capable of reaching a height of 15,000 feet. The destruction of human life and property that could be accomplished by a fleet of such air craft, under existing conditions, is almost too appalling for consideration.

Before the war began there was a general impression that the Zeppelins were impracticable and that if the scene of battle were ever to include the air as well as land and water the aeroplanes would carry the flying fighters. This belief has been exploded along with numerous others by Germany and the big balloons have turned out to be the real engines of destruction. With the knowledge acquired by experience in actual warfare and with the construction facilities at the disposal of Germany it does not require a particularly vivid imagination to picture an era in which life in the cities of Great Britain and France would become one continuous horror.

It isn't only with individuals that troubles come in pairs or multiples thereof. Forced by the European war to use other than the aniline dyes the American manufacturers of fabrics have turned to the coloring matter to be obtained from woods grown in the tropics. The demand for this material has forced the price of dyewood from \$20 to \$70 a ton and it is being shipped to New York from San Domingo, Haiti and other southern countries in unusual quantities. And the worst feature of the situation is that even after the wood has arrived in this country it is being held up at the docks for weeks because of the congestion of traffic on the railroads.

More Fletcher Offences.

"Those papers that are trying to stir up Ex-Governor Fletcher had better let him alone. It is not a good time to stir up the people on certain matters."—Morrisville Messenger.

And this reminds us that possibly we owe our esteemed contemporary, the St. Albans Messenger, an apology for having omitted from our recently published list of Governor Fletcher's offences (by way of calling the Messenger's attention to enormities it had failed to mention in its attack upon the former executive) two or three more of the governor's transgressions, which we regard as specially offensive from a popular standpoint.

One of these additional offences on the part of Governor Fletcher, which we neglected to mention, was his securing of legislation which resulted

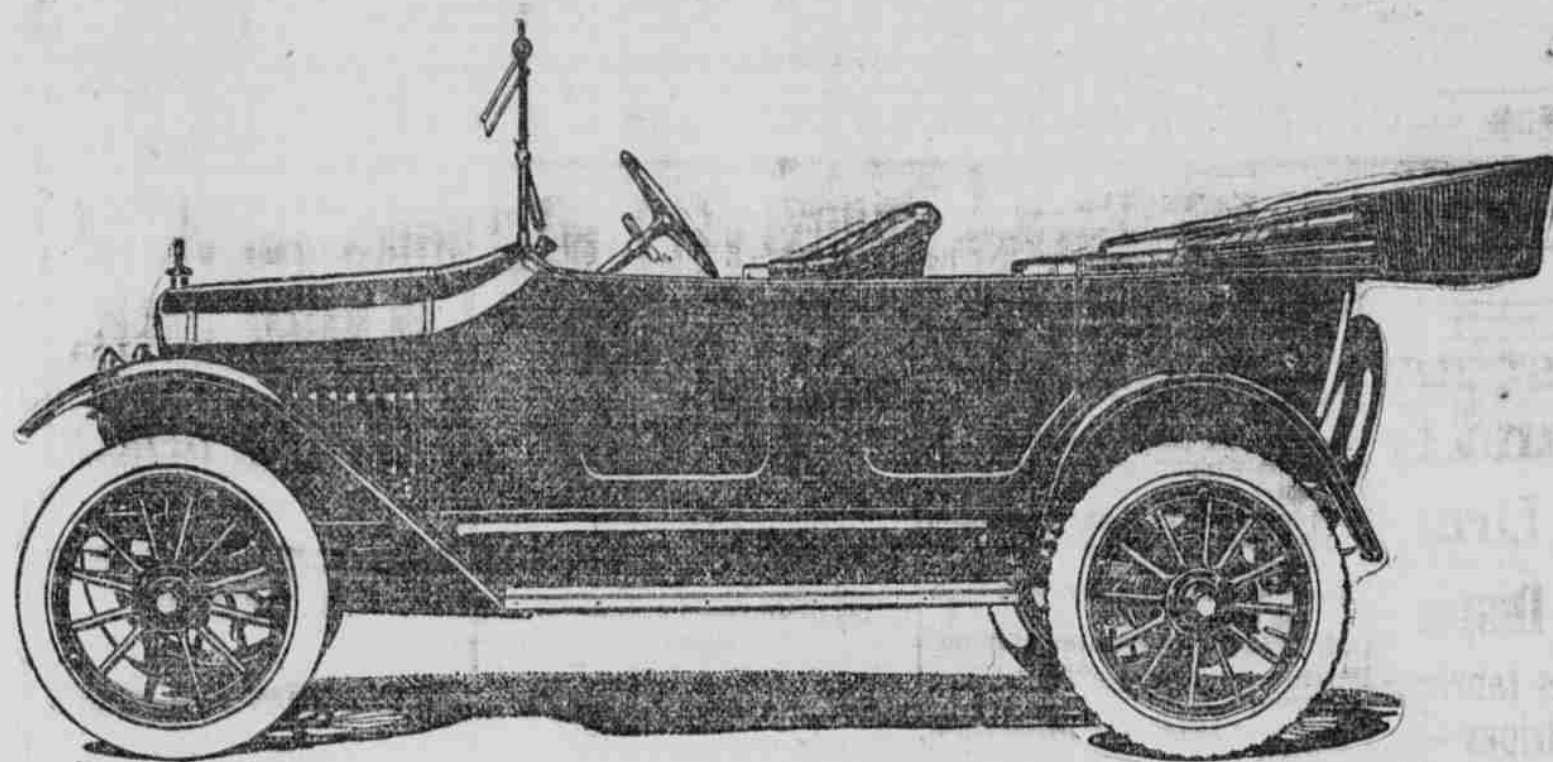
in factory inspection and has brought about improved sanitary conditions in Vermont mills and factories and greatly enhanced the comfort and safety of employees.

Another offense on the part of Governor Fletcher, which we neglected to tell the Messenger about, was his compassing of the removal of high voltage power lines from the highways of the State, through the medium of the public service commission, and thus freeing those who travel those highways from a peril that needs no emphasis.

Another offense on the part of Governor Fletcher, which we neglected to mention in our recent article, was his establishing the principle once for all, that the State is entitled to a good and sufficient bond at the hands of those to whom it intrusts the administration of its finances. This it may be remarked in passing, was not a debatable question it was a fixed principle of good business.

It may be that other "offences" that should not be condoned will occur to us later. If so, we shall be glad to call the attention of the St. Albans contemporary to them and assist it in convincing the people at large of the enormity of those "offences" of Governor Fletcher which it inadvertently omitted from its initial list.—Ludlow Tribune.

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Antlers of the Bull Moose.

The bull moose sheds his huge fan antlers in midwinter. They begin to grow afresh in April. In three months the antlers are finished and the velvet begins to shed off, showing the white bony structure below. By September the antlers are sunburned to a deep brown, except the tips, which are white and polished from rubbing them on the brush and trees.—Kansas City Times.

Peg your fortune

We advise everybody to peg their estate with life insurance, so that there is a minimum below which it cannot go. National Life Ins. Co., of Vt. (Mutual). Earle S. Kinsey, General Agent, Mead Building, Rutland, Vt. Adv.

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Anonymous Shakespeare.

Margaret Anglin had been playing Viola, Katharine and other Shakespearean heroines in the great theater at Melbourne, Australia, which had been crowded to the roof at every performance. But the time came to move on to a smaller city with a less sophisticated population, and her manager was assailed by doubts. He did not think Shakespeare would do. He proposed confining the repertory to modern plays. When she remonstrated he explained:

"They want to laugh." "Then why not 'The Taming of the Shrew'?" Miss Anglin suggested. He hesitated. Despair had him, but finally he replied, "Oh, well, we'll try it, but we mustn't let them know who wrote it."

"I had forgotten this incredible remark," says Miss Anglin, "until I arrived in the city to play, and there, to my horror, everywhere advertising was displayed announcing blithely that Miss Anglin would appear in a comedy, 'The Taming of the Shrew, by immortal Bard.'"—American Magazine.

How He Found It.

"So you claim the world is round," sneered the skeptic. "How do you know that it is not square?" "Because I have had too many dealings with it," grimly replied Columbus.—Florida Times-Union.